

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 NEW DE 05929 030854Z

21

ACTION NEA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-02

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15 /064 W

----- 013207

R 030820Z MAY 75

FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8468

INFO AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

AMCONSUL BOMBAY

AMCONSUL CALCUTTA

AMCONSUL MADRAS

UNCLAS NEW DELHI 5929

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR IN US

SUBJECT: MRS. GANDHI'S INTERVIEW WITH INDIAN JOURNALISTS
IN KINGSTON

1. IN ADDITION TO THE MAY 1 AP INTERVIEW (WHICH WE ASSUME DEPT HAS SEEN) IN WHICH SHE REPORTEDLY SAID THE LIFTING OF THE US ARMS EMBARGO "QUEERED THE PITCH" FOR NORMALIZATION OF RELATIONS ON THE SUBCONTINENT, MRS. GANDHI GAVE A SEPARATE INTERVIEW MAY 2 TO INDIAN CORRESPONDENTS IN KINGSTON FOR THE COMMONWEALTH PRIME MINISTER'S CONFERENCE. SHE REPORTEDLY TOLD THEM, "WE WOULD PREFER THEM (THE UNITED STATES) NOT TO GIVE ARMS TO PAKISTAN AND WE HAVE MADE OUR POSITION VERY CLEAR THAT IT INCREASES TENSIONS, BUT I DON'T THINK THAT IS A REASON FOR US TO BREAK RELATIONS (WITH THE UNITED STATES) OR TAKE ANY SUCH EXTREMIST STEP." ALSO, WITH REGARD TO RUMORS OF A CANCELLATION OF PRESIDENT FORD'S VISIT TO INDIA, SHE "FIRMLY" SAID, "THERE IS NO CHANGE IN OUR ATTITUDE."

2. ACCORDING TO THE PRESS REPORTS, MRS. GANDHI ALSO COMMENTED THAT THERE HAD BEEN A BASIC DIFFERENCE OF APPROACH TOWARDS VIETNAM FOR A NUMBER OF YEARS. "WE HAVE SAID FROM THE BEGINNING THAT THE INDIAN GOVERNMENT AND I MYSELF ARE NOT

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 NEW DE 05929 030854Z

PRO-COMMUNIST AND WE DON'T WANT INDIA TO BE COMMUNIST. WE

HAVE SAID THIS MANY TIMES. BUT HOW CAN YOU PREVENT WHAT ANOTHER COUNTRY WANTS? COMMUNISM HAS ITS BAD POINTS. SO HAVE OTHER TYPES OF DICTATORSHIPS. I DON'T THINK WE CAN INTERFERE IN THAT." ALSO, "DR. HO CHI MINH WAS NO DOUBT A COMMUNIST. BUT HE COULD BE LIKE MARSHAL TITO. IT WOULD NOT HAVE BEEN THE CHINESE WAY HAD VIETNAM BEEN ALLOWED TO DEVELOP ITS OWN INTERNATIONAL PERSONALITY." SHE ADDED, ON THE DOMINO THEORY, "IT DEPENDS ON HOW STRONG EACH NATION IS IN ITSELF. THAT IS THE ONLY GUARANTEE. THAT IS WHY IN INDIA WE BELIEVE SO STRONGLY IN DEMOCRACY. WITH ALL ITS WEAKNESSES, WE FEEL WE ARE BUILDING IN THESE FUTURE GUARANTEES WITH THE PEOPLE. THEN THEY WILL NOT BE EASILY PRESSURIZED OR MOLDED INTO SOMETHING THAT STIFLES THEIR OWN GROWTH."

3. ON INDIA'S FOREIGN RELATIONS IN GENERAL, MRS. GANDHI STATED, "WE WILL NEVER PROBABLY AGREE ON EVERY POINT WITH ANY SINGLE NATION BUT WE SHOULD FIND AREAS WHERE WE CAN COOPERATE."SAXBE

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: FOREIGN RELATIONS, ARMS, PRESS CONFERENCES, MILITARY SALES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 03 MAY 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975NEWDE05929
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750156-0133
From: NEW DELHI
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750583/aaaacxtt.tel
Line Count: 79
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: CunninFX
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 15 JUL 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <15 JUL 2003 by BalzMJ>; APPROVED <19 FEB 2004 by CunninFX>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: MRS. GANDHI'S INTERVIEW WITH INDIAN JOURNALISTS IN KINGSTON
TAGS: PFOR, IN, US, PK, (GANDHI, INDIRA)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006